

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L N MISHRA) (a) Final Location Survey between Apta and Dasgaon has since been completed and the reports are under examination. The Final Location Survey between Dasgaon and Ratnagiri including spot checks on the previous survey between Ratnagiri and Mangalore has also been sanctioned and is in progress.

(b) Earthwork on the Apta-Dasgaon portion of the Konkan Railway Project was taken up during 1973 as a drought relief measure and was executed by the Maharashtra State Government at their cost. Out of total quantity of 1890 lakhs cubic metres of earthwork, 107 lakh cubic metres was completed by the State Government. The work was suspended by the State Government on 15-6-1973 as the drought conditions improved.

(c) The project has been included in the list of railway lines proposed to be taken up during the 5th Five Year Plan for the development of backward areas of the country provided that additional funds are made available for this purpose. The funds allotted for construction of new railway lines in the Fifth Plan are insufficient even for completing the works in progress and those required for meeting the demands of the core sector. The Planning Commission had been approached for making additional funds available for this purpose but they have been unable to do so on account of the present difficult financial position.

Threatened closer of Industries for Non-availability of Furnance and Diesel Oil in Rajasthan

2803 **SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of medium and small scale industrial units in Rajasthan are being forced to close down due to the non-availability of furnace oil, diesel oil and other oil products, and

(b) if so the measures taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI)

(a) and (b) No such reports have been received by the Government. Sale of diesel oil from the companies outlets is at present free. Furnace oil supplies are however being made by the companies on the basis of 1973 offtakes of individual consumers. A 10 per cent efficiency cut is being applied in making furnace oil supplies to all consumers. A further 10 per cent cut is also being made in supplies to industrial consumers other than the 33 specified core sector industries. A quota has also been allocated to the States for supplies to small scale units and State Enterprises which are not registered with any Central sponsoring authorities.

Foreign Companies Marketing Products of Small Units

2804 **SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 3676 on the 27th August 1974 regarding Foreign companies marketing products of small units and state

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected,

(b) if so whether he would lay it on the Table of the House, and

(c) if not, when he is expected to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K R GANESH)

(a) to (c) Efforts are being made to collect the information and it will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.